

A photograph of a person in an orange shirt and dark shorts climbing a tall, grey rock face. The rock face has horizontal layers and is surrounded by dense green jungle. The sky is overcast. The title 'Paparoa Climbs' is in large white letters, and 'Bullock Creek' is in smaller white letters below it.

# Paparoa Climbs

## Bullock Creek

February 2015 Edition  
By Neil Warrington and Neil Silverwood







## Paparoa Climbs

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#### WARNING!

Climbing is a potentially hazardous activity carrying a risk of personal injury or death. Climbing should be undertaken with a full understanding of all inherent risks. This book is a guide and we have attempted to ensure that the information was correct at the time of publication. You are responsible for your own decisions. Use this guidebook at your own risk. We disclaim any liability for injury, death or damage that may occur by using the information in this book.

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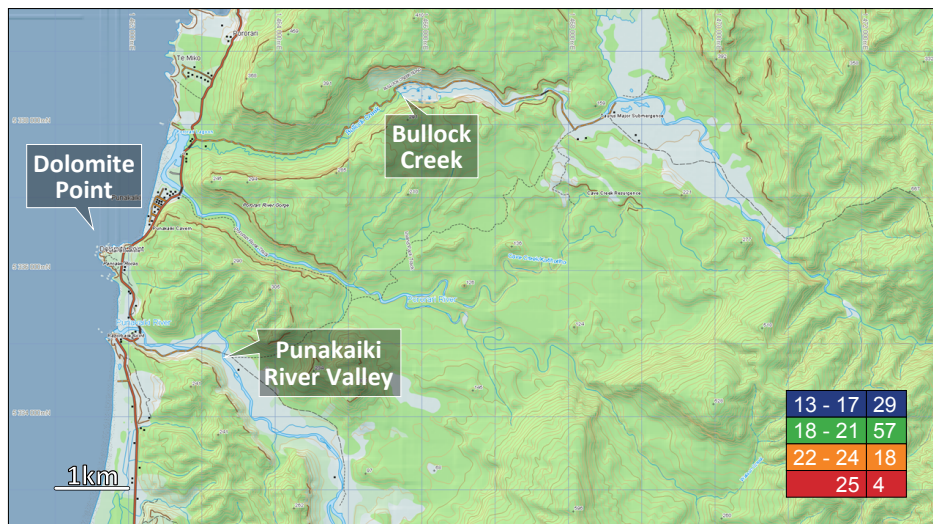
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Cover photo: Nelly's Nut (21) - p25

## Area Locations

Paparoa National Park is located in the northern part of the South Island's West Coast, alongside State Highway 6, between the towns of Westport and Greymouth. Established in 1987, Paparoa National Park is perhaps most famous for the Pancake Rocks and blowholes of Dolomite Point, near the settlement of Punakaiki.



Bullock Creek  
 Dolomite Point  
 Punakaiki River Valley

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## Introduction

Welcome to climbing in the Paparoas, including the 'world famous' Bullock Creek and the Punakaiki River Valley. This isn't your average sport climbing destination, but it has something for everyone.

## History

Development of the area began with a visit from Robin Hood back in 1985-86 when Robin and a mate put up two climbs at Hanging Gardens (Dogs in Space and a project which later became The Great Gatsby). This was the very first stage of Bullock Creek development and it ended when the river flooded and Robin was forced to swim to the wall to recover his gear. Next came a group of Greymouth climbers led by Bruce Dowrick in 1999 who put up a selection of climbs at Hanging Gardens before having a disagreement with DOC over the unsightliness of a static rope. The disagreement halted development until 2008, when Jack Grinstead fired the cannon and called in some legendary Kiwi climbers including Lindsay Main, Joe Arts and Neil Silverwood who also saw the potential shimmering in the cliff now known as the Arboretum. Over the next few years Jack and various merry men returned to put up new lines in both Bullock Creek and the Punakaiki River Valley.

The winter of 2014 saw a heap of development from Neil Silverwood and Neil Warrington who put up nearly two dozen new pitches. As of January 2015 Bullock Creek has undergone its biggest development phase to date with funding graciously provided by a Sport New Zealand Hillary Expedition Grant. The team received funding to put up 30 new routes in 30 days at the newly found Paradise Crag and its outlying walls, with the help of many visiting friends.

## Bullock Creek

Bullock Creek has developed a bit of a bad reputation over the years. Climbers have struggled to find established climbs, couldn't find the right climb and often the climb they did find was so dirty that they wished they hadn't found it at all.

This is changing. There's been a whack load of improvements over the last year (2014-15) to make access better, including new tracks, re-cleaned routes, new crags, new climbs and this new guide. Perhaps some of the tracks will get washed away during floods, perhaps some of the climbs are still a little bit dusty but this is one of the most beautiful places imaginable; pack your gummies and your helmet and embrace the adventure!

## Bullock Creek Camping








There are a couple of beautiful bivy spots up the Creek if you're looking to spend a night out and maximize your climbing. The Colosseum campsite is located underneath the overhang when you first reach the wall with a reliable spring 5m away and enough flat space for 3-4 friends. The Paradise bivy is an absolute stunner, with a sea view, lots of sunshine and enough dry flat space to house a rugby team – it is legend and has a fresh water spring 50m away. If you prefer car camping there's a grassy flat at the Bullock Creek road end.

The comfy Beach Camp behind the tavern in Punakaiki is a convenient option too: reasonably priced, comes with hot showers, shared kitchen, wifi, and is only a few minutes drive from the crags.

## Guide Conventions

All climbs have double bolt anchors or chains unless otherwise specified. Sport climbs are shown in blue and require only quickdraws. Trad and mixed climbs are shown in red.

An umbrella symbol implies that the climb stays dry in most rain.

Legend	On Topo	Not on Topo
Bolted sport climb		
Mixed or trad climb		
Pitch on multipitch climb		
Location on map		



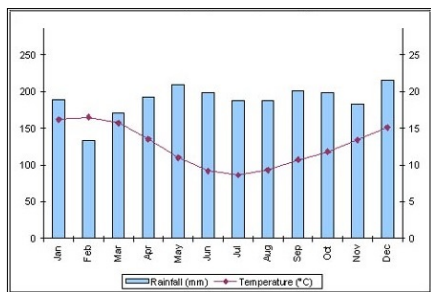


Punakaiki Coast

## Weather

The climate on the coast is one of extremes and the Buller District receives some 2274mm of rain per year measured against some 1800 sunshine hours. This weather for many is one of the attractions to the coast. Basically, when it rains, it rains cats, dogs and small children. When it is not raining the sun is out and the sky turns an electric blue colour and there's no more beautiful place to be. In short the weather doesn't muck around on the coast.

The weather follows a basic pattern. Frontal systems coming off the Tasman Ocean collide with the northern end of the Southern Alps and need to lose some weight to get over. This is why the coast gets doused with so much rain.



Average Annual Rainfall at Westport

## Climbing in the Rain

The best places to climb in the rain are:

- Hanging Gardens: The climbs above the sandy beach stay dry in any weather, however when the river floods after prolonged rain the dry sandy beach doesn't stay so dry and sandy.
- The Arboretum, Gumboot Ledge: This is a great place to spend a wet day. You can climb here when the river below is in full flood. However while you chalk up there's a very real chance your car will be going underwater at the car park.
- Pitta Patta and Air Traffic Control Tower: These usually stay dry in rain and offer a safe haven if Bullock Creek is flooded.

Every crag, apart from Dolomite Point, has a few lines that stay dry in the rain. Look for the little umbrella symbol next to climb names for those that tend to stay dry.

## Other Rainy Day Activities

So it's raining, the rivers are flooded and you can't climb. Bummer. Well it's not all bad news. There's more to life than climbing so here are some ideas to get you started.

Head down the Truman Track and visit one of the wildest sections of coastline around. In a storm, massive unbroken waves roll off the Tasman Ocean, colliding with the sandstone cliffs. At high tide there's a blow hole which



rivals the Punakaiki Rocks. On a calmer day the beach to the north of the track is stunning and you can explore some impressive dry sea caves. The trail is 1.5km north of the Punakaiki Township.

Paddle up the Pororari – Splash out and rent kayaks and paddle up the limestone gorge. Drool over the massive unclimbed cliffs towering over the river.

Visit Punakaiki's dark side – There are some terrific cave systems in the Paparoa National Park. One of the most accessible is Fox River Cave. It's an hour hike to the entrance but it's well worth it. Also, just downriver is the Babylon Cave that is even more spectacular but requires a little local knowledge to find the entrance.

Feeling flush - head down to the Punakaiki Tavern. Priced for tourists and not exactly a micro brewery but they are open late, serve a good square meal and will no doubt satisfy your craving for a pint. The Pancake Rocks Café does a great coffee. The Beach Hut does good fish and chips.



Kiwi for 'Approach Shoes'

## New Zealand Alpine Club Code of Conduct for Rock Climbers

**Permission:** Before entering other peoples' land permission must be obtained. Any agreements made must be strictly followed. Accept that sometimes you may be refused permission to enter the land because of current circumstances, e.g. family gathering, lambing/calving.

**Impact:** Any rockclimbing must have the lowest possible impact on the crag and environs. Points to note are:

- No climbing on special areas such as burial grounds, artefact sites, stalagmites and stalactites, areas of rare wildlife or other such identified areas.
- Rock climbers should limit their activities at a crag to the cliff, its top and its base, preserving areas such as native bush and reserves for all.
- Keep tracks to a minimum.
- A crag is a small area and should not be used as a toilet.
- All rubbish should be taken from the crag, including biodegradables.

**Route Preparation:** This should be done to ensure minimum impact while ensuring the route is safe to climb. Talk to the landowners before cutting or removing vegetation. It is important that the route be prepared properly so the job does not have to be done twice. All ropes, slings etc. used in cleaning must be taken when leaving the crag, as these are often unsightly.

**Fixed Gear and Anchors:** In some areas climbs may have to be equipped with bolts or pegs. It is stressed that this gear is placed only for safety reasons. Where possible use the same belay point for several routes. At bolt station belays, the double bolt and chain set-up is the minimum standard. Bolts, where necessary, should be placed using the following as a guide:

- Make every bolt safe to use.
- Use the best or most appropriate type for the rock.
- Use care when considering bolt placements - note the distance between bolts, and ease of clipping.

**Naming Routes:** Naming is the prerogative

of the first ascensionist. Care should be taken not to offend others with the selected name. It is not worth incurring the wrath of the local iwi, ranger, farmer or landowner for the sake of a crude or derogatory route name. This can cause a crag to be closed.

**Behaviour:** Remember that your voice carries some distance from the cliff, sometimes far enough to be heard by landowners and other land users who may be upset by obscenities and offensive phrases uttered in the heat of the moment on a climb. Before stripping off for a swim, consider if nudity might be offensive to landowners. It sometimes is!

**On a farm:**

- Leave gates as you find them (open or shut).
- Cross fences at stiles preferably or at strainer posts, and cross locked gates at the hinged end.
- Leave your dog and gun at home.
- Do not distress or molest the stock.
- Before driving across farmland you must check with the farmer.

**Cultural Considerations:** Where crags have special cultural significance, cultural sensitivities and any issues arising must be resolved before climbing commences. In particular, aspects such as burial grounds and tapu on Maori land must be addressed.

Relevant specialists may need to survey the crag.

**Communications:** Maintain good communications. A few minutes of polite discussion can mean an uninterrupted day's climbing, whereas a few hurled insults can result in no further access for climbers ever. Be courteous and respectful.

**Camping:** Camp only in designated areas and keep a tidy camp. Completely extinguish any campfire after use.

**Safety:** Inherent in climbing is an element of risk. Some flaunt it, others respect it, some choose to ignore it. In the final analysis you are responsible for your own safety. Nobody has to do a particular route. If a route is too necky for you, back off. Climb as safely as possible. Beware of loose rocks; they cause considerable damage to people and equipment when dislodged. Some crags are notorious for having loose rocks on the routes and on access/descent tracks. Wearing a helmet could save you from serious injury. All things being equal, softer rock is more likely to have protection fail; keep this in mind when placing wires at some of the softer rock crags. Treat all fixed gear with suspicion - you do not know its history.

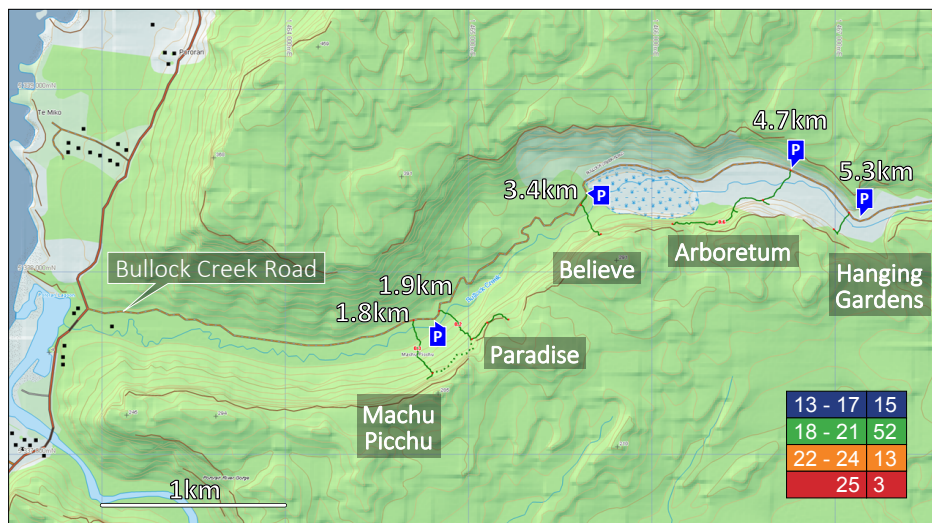
Access to crags is a privilege not a right!



With Friends Like These (19) - p21

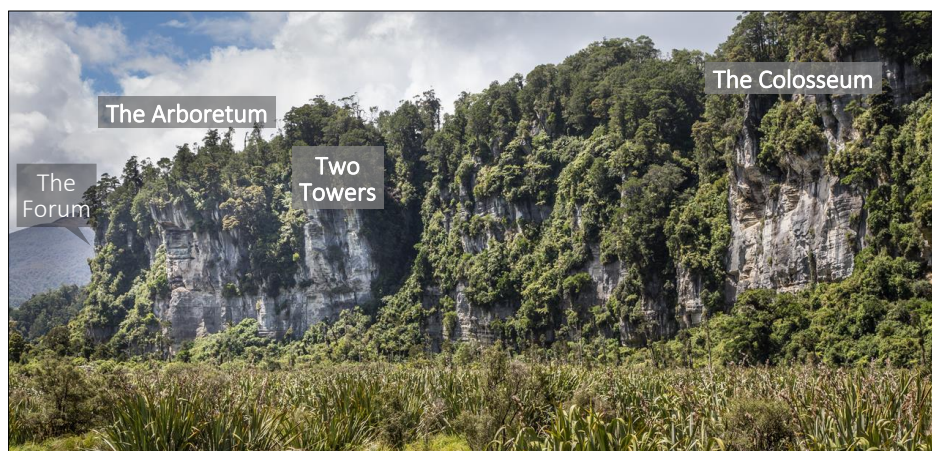


## Bullock Creek



**Access:** About 2km north of Punakaiki, turn right (east) up Bullock Creek Road. The climbing is on the opposite side of the creek bed from the road.

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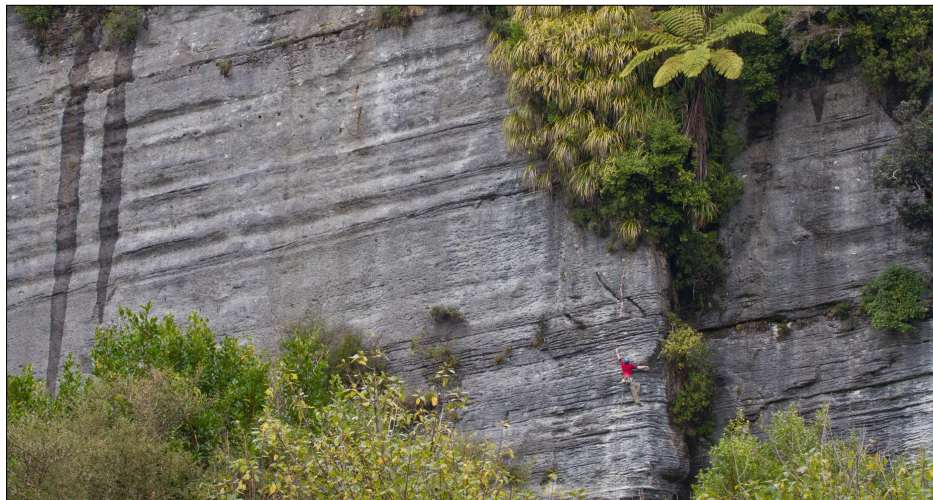








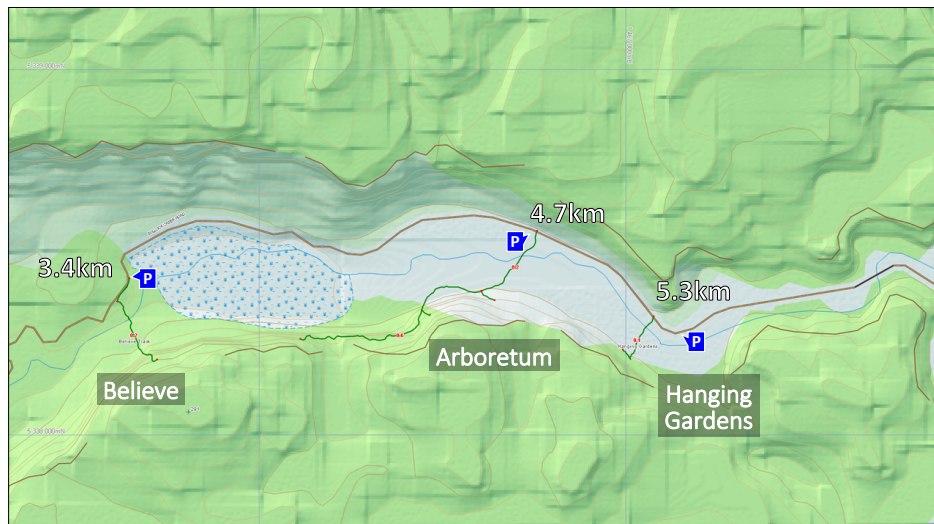
## Hanging Gardens

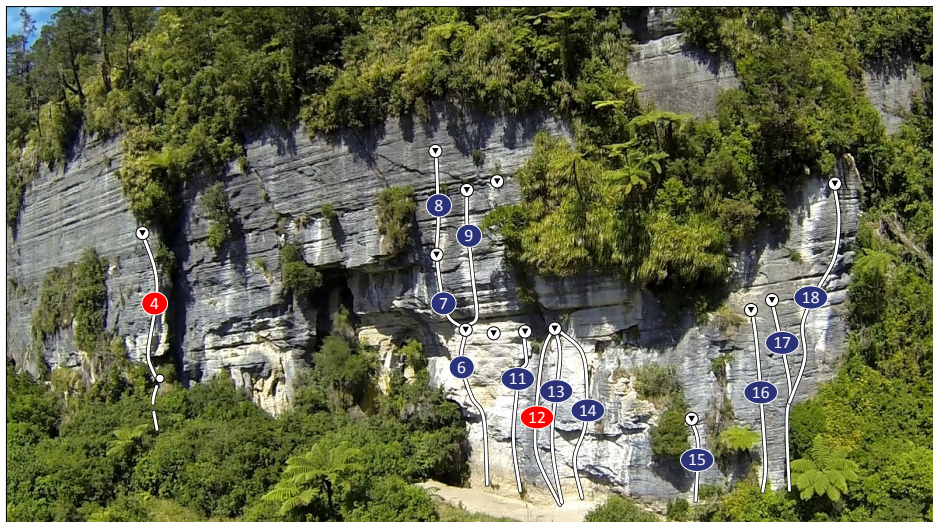


Crème Brûlée (22)

Bullock Creek's original and premier crag with a beautiful selection of routes on pristine and well featured rock. Not to mention the casual two minute approach and sandy riverbed make an ideal location for your belay slave. The crag stays dry in the rain, but if it is raining up in the hills the usually dry riverbed floods so be prepared for a quick departure or some exciting deep water soloing.

**Access:** Drive 5.3km up Bullock Creek Road from SH6 and park on the side of the road beside a grassy meadow. Follow your nose through the long grass towards the obviously stunning piece of rock with the big black streak on the other side of the riverbed.





Hanging Gardens

The following three climbs are located exactly 150 paces upriver from the main crag (Hanging Gardens). Lost in Time and Love From Me are on a face directly behind a small patch of grass 20m from the sandy riverbed. The Crack of Beyond is tucked up at the gully to the right of this.

① **Lost in Time 22** 7B 18m

Start left of the small prow, bust through some dusty scoops to some entertaining moves on the face above.

Neil Warrington, 2015

② **Love From Me 19** 7B 18m

Not hard to tell this route was put up by a skier-cum-climber. A slalom course of a line. Starts right of the prow and deke left to share the 3rd bolt of Lost in Time before carving back through the big scoops to finish up the vague arête.

Kat Rast, 2015

③ **Crack of Beyond 16** 12m ↑

Thought to be a myth for many years, the aesthetic hand crack is now equipped with its very own ring anchors for you 21st century climbers that are too soft to downclimb grade 16.

Bruce Dowrick, 1999

④ **Crème Brûlée 22** ★ ↑

20m upriver from Champing at the Bit: up, tucked into a sandy alcove. Climb up fixed line (the one further upriver) to a vegetated ledge directly under the arête. Climb steep white rock to gain the arête and continue to chains. Approximately 25m.

Bruce Dowrick, 1999

⑤ **Champing at the Bit 14** 17m

30m upstream of Illusions of Inadequacy beneath the abandoned beehive. Follow series of cracks to the chimney and anchor.

James Lochhead, 2013

⑥ **Illusions of Inadequacy 20** 6B 18m ★★



Left most route on the main crag. Follow a vague crack leaning right till the wall steepens then muscle left onto good holds and up to a thread. Originally named Illusions of Adequacy and had its 1st bolt at the ledge at 10m. Rebolted and renamed by Jack Grinstead in 2009, it's an absolute cracker.

Dean Arthur, 1999

⑦ **Heart Attack and Vine 25** 9B 25m ★ ↑

An extension of Illusions of Inadequacy. Climb Illusions of Inadequacy then move up through the overhang past 3 more bolts to the belay.

Bruce Dowrick, 1999

⑧ **Open Project (Pri)**



Top pitch of Heart Attack & Vine, unclimbed, awaiting a young enterprising climber with dreams of glory.

**9 Seemingly Psychedelic 24** 13B 29m ★★



An extension of Illusions of Inadequacy, Climb Illusions of Inadequacy to the last bolt then veer right towards the ledge then through the small roof, then steep slab climbing on steller rock all the way to the anchor. Can be lowered on a 60m, but when cleaning it is best to abseil twice using Illusions of Inadequacy anchor.

Troy Mattingley, 2013

**10 Project (Prj)**

Just left of Knee Deep?

**11 Knee Deep 20** 6B 18m ★↑

3m right of Illusions of Inadequacy. Start left of the bush to gain crack, climb over the bulge then up slab to a good stance below large flake, step around this to a mantle finish. 6 bolts and sling.

James Lochhead, 2013

**12 Opportunivore 17** 5B 20m ★↑

Originally climbed on gear, it follows the black streak up the crack past 5 bolts to a ledge, if you've got a #2 Camalot in your pocket, place it, or run it out on relatively easy climbing to the anchor.

Bruce Dowrick

**13 Bush Chick 18** 6B 20m ★★↑

This route oozes goodness. Starting just left of the big roof cruise up and sneak around the roof (crux) then onwards to the chains.

Toni Bryant, 1999

**14 Where the Weka Was 21** 20m ↑

Hard crimping moves to the first bolt (can be quite high depending on the sand in the riverbed), then upwards to the right side of the big roof, up and over then eventually cruise back left to the communal anchor of Opportunivore and Bush Chick.

Bruce Dowrick

**15 Organic Migraine (Prj)** 2B 8m ↑

Starts just after you climb up onto the river bank, ends just under the rata root. Incomplete single bolt anchor.

Equipped by Troy Mattingley, 2014

**16 Closed Project (Prj)**

3m left of Dogs in Space.

**17 Dogs in Space 18** 20m ★★↑

The right most line of bolts up on the river bank. A few challenging moves get you through the first two bolts then put it into cruise control once you reach the crack. Total classic. Retro-bolted 2013.

Robin Hood, 1985

**18 The Great Gatsby 21** 9B 30m ↑

Climb through the first 3 bolts of Dogs in Space then venture right past a perma-draw, to the all inspiring arête for a series of steep and challenging moves. Best to clip the perma-draw when lowering to avoid making love to the bush. Bit of a rope stretcher.

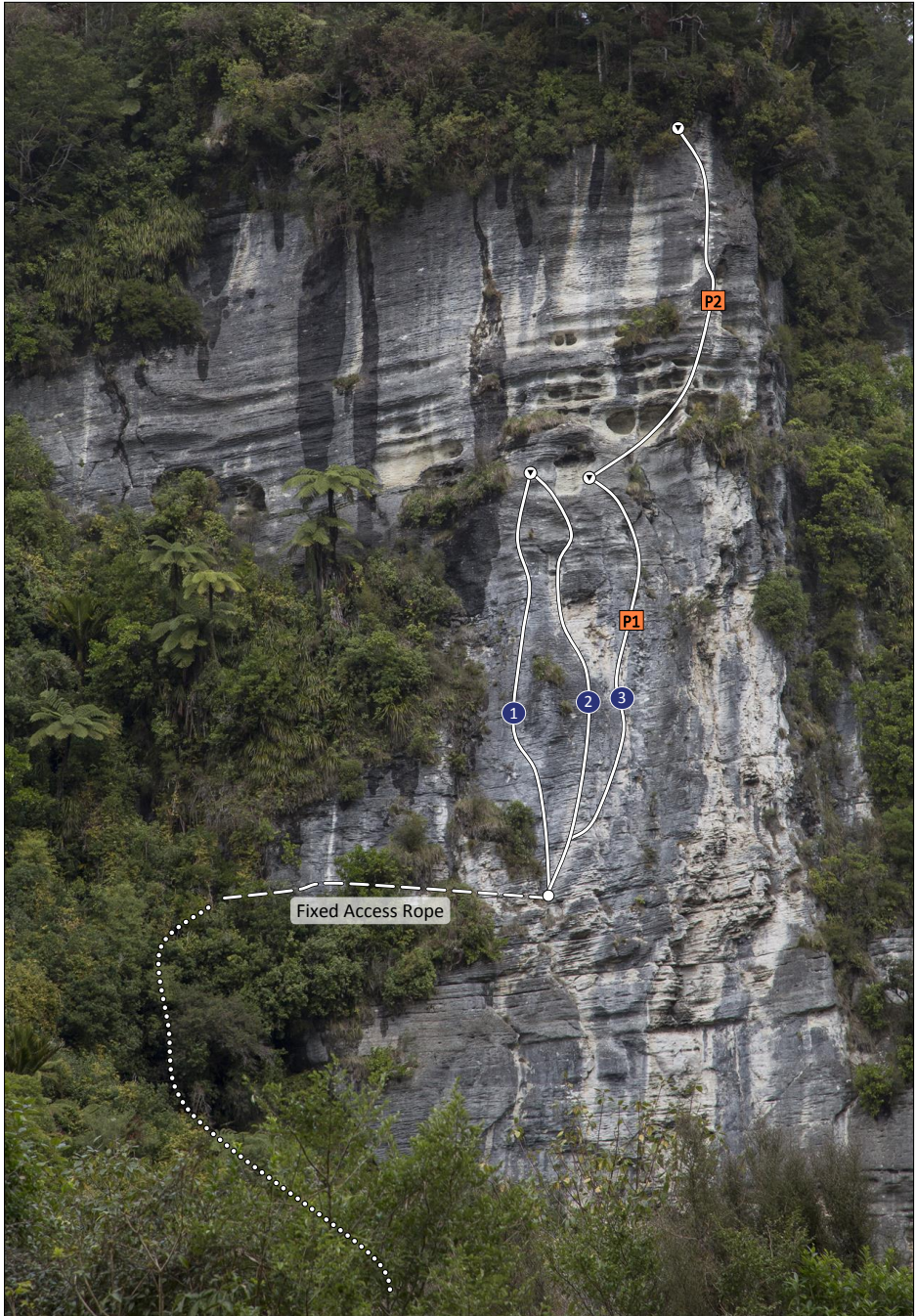
Troy Mattingley, 2013











The Forum

## The Forum

The Forum is the appealing looking upper cliff, but lacks the ground access for any of us mere mortal climbers. Lindsay and Francis Main found a solution in 2013, with a steep trail and a traverse line out to a belay station at half height giving access to three climbs.

**Access:** The first crag you reach from the Arboretum parking (gravel pullout 4.7km from SH6 with a rock cairn). Follow the vague track through long grass and "the mangroves" to the sandy (and hopefully dry) riverbed. Walk downriver until you reach a flagged trail signposted "Forum" leading off to the left after about 100m after entering the riverbed (if you arrive at the log jam you've gone too far). Take the vague trail up to the left through the bush to a fixed traverse line 1/2 way up the cliff. Traverse out to a belay station, the three climbs start from here.

### 1 Francis' Route 23 8B 25m

Starts directly above the belay. Shares the first two bolts of Absent Friends before moving left into crux territory on to the steep and crimpy wall, followed by mellower slab climbing and an airy finish up the arête.

Francis Main, 2013

### 2 Absent Friends 18 6B 25m

Cruise up and rightward around the grassy patches, and onwards to the first serious bulge that involves tricky moves on high holds. Bolted by Simon Courtios.

Lindsay Main, 2013

### 3 Double Trouble 20 17B 53m

**P1 20 28m 9B:** From the first bolt move out right, (extend the 2nd bolt with a sling) and follow the bolts diagonally to a shallow groove where the climbing steepens. Up to the right of a small tree on small holds to a dirty crack; then bridge up under the bulge, step left and balance through the bulge heading left on slopers (crux) to the belay.

**P2 19 25m 8B:** Step out right to clip the first bolt and move cautiously up to the vegetated ledge. Muscle up through the overhangs and balance onto the ledge; then follow the bolts through a couple of shallow scoops to the final moves up the white streak.

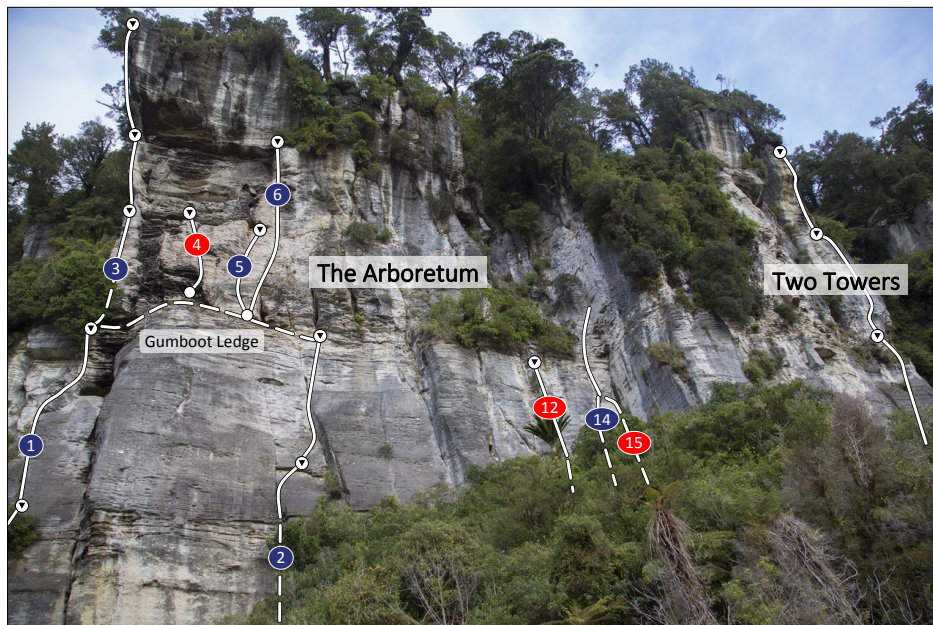
Lindsay Main, 2013



Ongaonga (stinging nettle)



## The Arboretum



The Arboretum

Characteristically the heart of Bullock Creek, in its Jurassic like setting, and its diverse climbing on rock that varies from solid-as-to choss pile as you climb through the different layers of limestone. It offers up a handful of moderate multi-pitch adventures as well as some thought provoking trad lines. The Arboretum is also home to the notorious Gumboot Ledge, which has been described by one unnamed individual as "the best climbing at Bullock Creek!" and another as "it's as loose and dirty as the route developers." I'm leaning towards the latter, although Arc of a Diver and Plan B are both classic in their own right.

**Access:** Follow the track from the Arboretum parking (gravel pullout 4.7km from SH6 with a rock cairn). Follow the vague track through long grass and "the mangroves" to the sandy (and hopefully dry) riverbed. Walk downriver past the Forum to a trail marked "A1" on a sign hanging in a tree (just before the log jam). This track will take you to Arboretum (left) which includes While You See a Chance and Nevermind the Bullocks, both of these

climbs will give you access to the climbs on Gumboot Ledge. For the climbs at Arboretum (right) continue down the riverbed, through the ever-changing mess of logs where a sign stating "Fun Climbing" hung between two trees indicates the start of a marked track. 50m further when you reach a junction, turn left on the trail marked "A2". Take the rock stairs uphill. Squeeze past a tree and you will have reached the wall. The mellow left facing corner crack in front of you is Crackerjack.



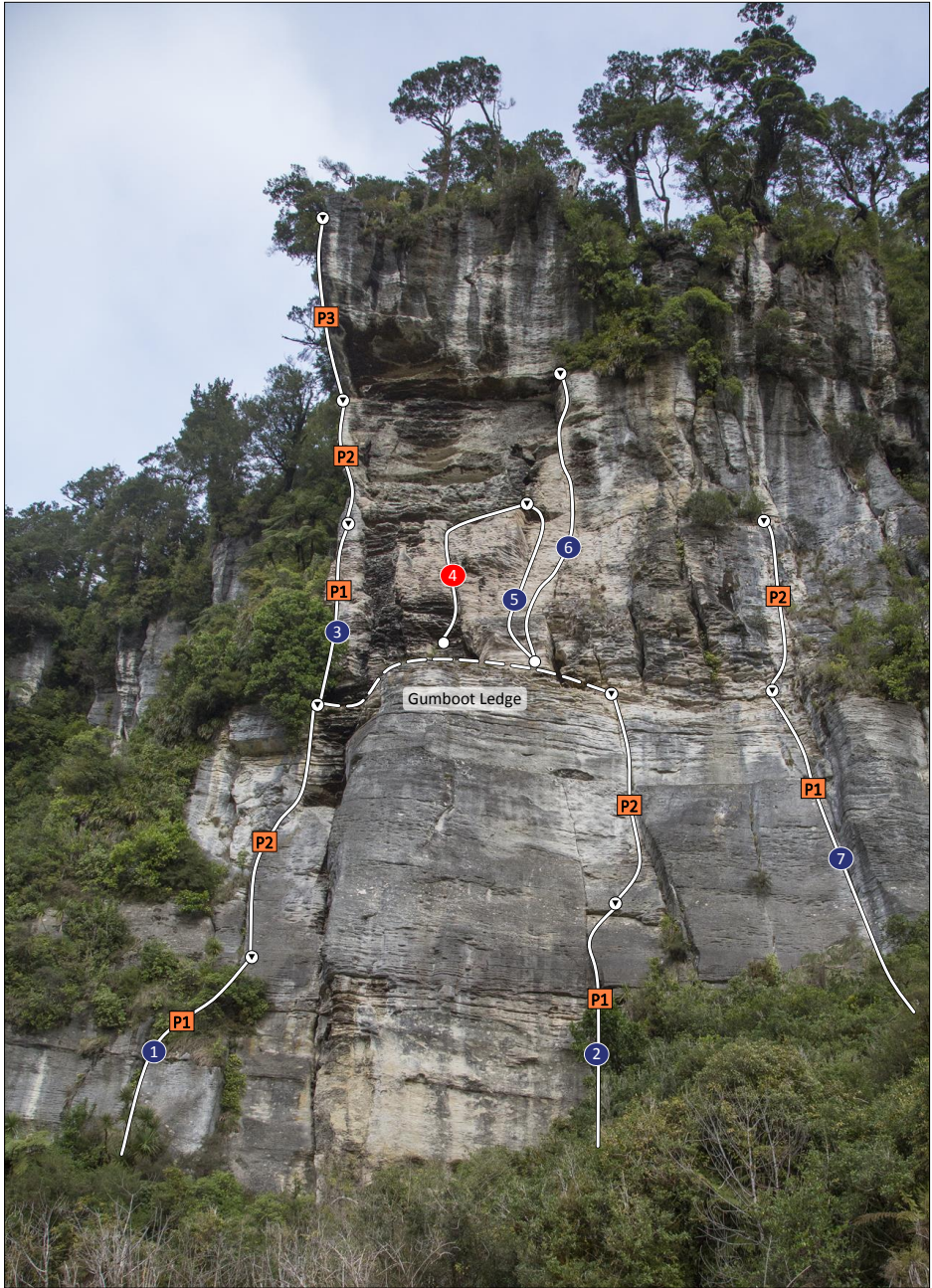
Bullock Creek







## The Arboretum (left)



The Arboretum (left)



## The Arboretum (left)

The following two routes are approached via the "A1" Trail from the riverbed.

### ① When You See a Chance 18 11B 37m

Starts from the very left of the crag just after the track meets the rock. Link with Arc of a Diver for a 5 pitch route.

**P1 15 15m 4B:** Follow a wide right tending crack, climb up the slab before pulling over a overhang onto a vegetated ledge, and repeat the belly flop to gain the belay station. The pitch lacks a certain class.

**P2 18 22m 7B:** Climb up the crack to a small arête, move right across the face and upwards to an awesome juggy finish below the tree.

Lindsay Main, Jack Grinsted, 2008

### ② Nevermind the Bullocks 20 15B 37m ↑

Starts at a wide crack and corner, with bolts on the left arête. Link with Plan B for a good 3 pitch route.

**P1 20 10B:** Chimneying, bridging, laybacking, jamming, this route is heavy with tradition, except for the bolts of course. Above the chimney is a steep crux, followed by tricky jamming to a cushy belay ledge. Pretty dirty pitch.

**P2 18 5B:** Excellent pitch with lots of jamming, move right 2-3 metres to another corner and climb the crack to a belay on the right just below Gumboot Ledge. To access Gumboot Ledge climb a small traverse pitch up to a 2nd belay station.

Joe Arts, Simon Courtois, 2008

The following four climbs are accessed from Gumboot Ledge via While You See a Chance or Nevermind the Bullocks.

### ③ Arc of a Diver 20 16B 41m ↑

**P1 16 18m 6B:** From the dusty chimney step onto the right wall and gain the arête. Continue on solid holds and through the juggy overhang increasing in exposure to a crux just before a move right to a double bolt anchor.

**P2 19 15m 6B:** Easily up to the narrow point on the arête and move right where it steepens. Negotiate loose rock at the right and move left (crux) to a rest. Easily up the jugs to a chain station at the ledge with a small tree.

Bullock Creek

**P3 20 8m 4B:** Awkwardly gain the right-leading ramp and climb past three bolts. Then climb the face delicately to the chain anchor (crux).

Lindsay Main, Jack Grinsted, 2008

### ④ Up to the Neck 18 1B ↑

Naturally-protected route starting at the corner/crack just right of a two-ring station. Starts on black rock with good holds. From a bolt, traverse right four metres to the double bolt anchor for Blistering Barnacles.

Joe Arts, 2008

### ⑤ Blistering Barnacles 17 6B 18m ↑

Start at a high anchor station on the right side of Gumboot Ledge, climb through the overhang on solid white rock to a ledge; then after two bolts move left and climb the right-facing corner and crack to a chain station.

Joe Arts, 2008

### ⑥ Plan B 19 11B 30m ↑

Makes Gumboot Ledge worth visiting. Start as for Blistering Barnacles, but continue straight up the crack as it steepens moving through a series of overhangs finishing on a small ledge next to a tree.

Francis Main, 2012



Plan B (19)

## The Arboretum (right)



The Arboretum (right)



## The Arboretum (right)

The following routes are accessed via the "A2" trail that arrives at the cliff under Crackerjack.

### 7 Black Sheep 19 13B 40m ↑

Fun-as. Everything from jamming to a jug infested roof. Can be climbed as one radical 40m pitch (be sure to extend the first draw after the first double bolt anchor).

**P1 18 25m 7B:** Starts at the very end of the ledge under a small roof. Step out onto the slab and get into the corner crack. Can also be climbed on gear now that the crack has been cleaned.

**P2 19 15m 6B:** Climb right and up through a juggy roof. Short, but stellar pitch. Descend from the eerie belay station.

Neil Silverwood, 2012

### 8 Blunt Arête 19 8B 20m

Clip the first two bolts of Rock Ahoy then wander up and leftward to the vague arête.

Neil Silverwood, 2014

### 9 Rock Ahoy 18 6B 20m

The big ass chimney with a bit of a bouldery start. The name came when Neil Warrington toppled pillars of rock off next to his belaying girlfriend on the first attempt up the line yelling Rock Ahoy!

Neil Silverwood, 2014

### 10 Fresh As Bananas 19 20m

Having gear this good in limestone is fresh-as. Climb the tasty crack up to the little ledge on the right, place your last piece and pull through some jugs to a double bolt anchor. Gear to #3 cam.

Neil Warrington, 2014

### 11 Slanted and Enchanted 18 4B 18m

Follows the large pillar directly left of Nomad. Good gear in the crack to the left. The upper, more difficult section is protected by bolts. Finishes at the same double bolt anchor as Nomad.

Neil Silverwood, 2014

### 12 Nomad 19 18m

The right crack of the thin pillar, pleasant jamming and bridging leads to a flavourful crux as the crack peters out, play your cards just right and stand up into the right-hand crack before veering left to the anchors.

Joe Arts, 2008

### 13 Short Story Long 22 7B 20m

Start in the small 3m high left-facing corner and maneuver back and forth through balancy moves until jugs appear just before the anchor.

Neil Warrington, 2014

### 14 With Friends Like These 19 20B 47m

Named as a reference to Silverwood and Joe Arts' developing relationship. Starts on top of the prow-like ledge next to Crackerjack.

**P1 19 15m 7B:** Step onto the slab and trend left through delicate moves past the 3rd bolt (crux), then up the faint crack and finishing with a to a move back right to gain the belay.

Neil Silverwood, 2008

**P2 19 12m 5B:** A short pitch packed full of punch, bridge off the belay, stack a fist jam and crank on jugs to the next set of rings.

Joe Arts, 2008

**P3 19 20m 8B:** Climb out left through steep rock, past the tree to easier ground. Pull through two more small overhangs before finishing at the magical and mystical belay.

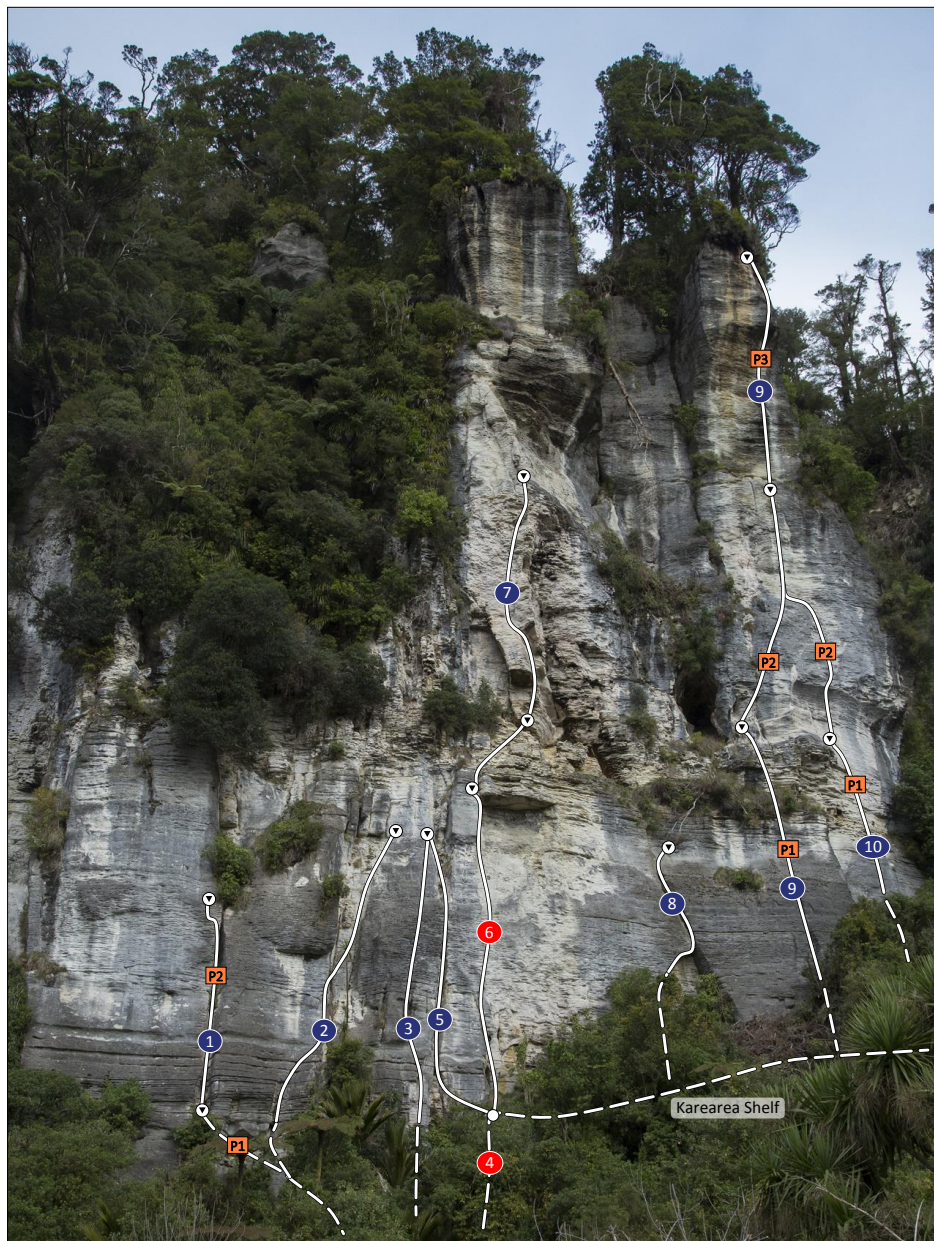
Neil Warrington 2014

### 15 Crackerjack 13

The massive left-hand corner crack. Crack goes really well, then step left across the slab to finish at the double bolt anchor of With Friends Like These.

Neil Silverwood

## Two Towers



Two Towers

Originally classified as part of the Arboretum, the Two Towers now stand alone offering some unique climbing to those that venture to the unmistakable cliff. Home to a handful

of Bullock Creek's easiest climbs, it's a great first stop to test out the rock if you're new to the area. However, the cracks on the wall have a tendency to be a little dirty due to a

Bullock Creek



dusty ledge above. Don't let this put you off. Just dust of the holds, crack a smile and get a feel for what it is like to climb on a stack of pancakes.

**Access:** Follow the track from the Arboretum parking (gravel pullout 4.7km from SH6 with a rock cairn). Follow the vague track through long grass and "the mangroves" to the sandy (and hopefully dry) riverbed. Walk downriver for several hundred metres past the ever-changing mess of logs where a sign stating "Fun Climbing" hung between two trees indicates the start of a marked track. When you reach a junction, turn right for the trail marked "2 Towers & Colosseum". 50m down this trail is a 12m high perfect hand crack, this is 'The Ruairi McAree'. Turning back upriver at this point underneath the cliffs will lead you to Rumble in the Jungle, More Bang For Your Buck and Every Dog Has His Day. Alternatively, access the Karearea Shelf (and the rest of the Two Towers routes) via The Ruairi McAree or by continuing along the trail (downriver) beneath the cliffs to a massive windfall area. Scramble uphill over a stump and back left through a slot between some boulders onto the shelf.

#### 1 Rumble in the Jungle 16 9B 25m ↑

Awesome first multipitch experience, or can be linked as a single pitch.

**P1 16 10m 4B:** Start by laybacking a large flake to a small roof, traverse hard left around the corner to the first belay.

**P2 16 15m 5B:** Chimney central. Stem your way up until you're forced out, belay is to the left.

Neil Silverwood, Neil Warrington

#### 2 More Bang For Your Buck 16 9B 30m ↑

Shares same first bolt as Rumble in the Jungle, then continue straight up through the juggy roof, and slowly wander up and right through a gully to finish with more awesome face climbing.

Neil Silverwood

#### 3 Every Dog Has His Day 20 9B 25m ↑

Initially started on the hard left side of the Karearea Shelf, a direct start 4m left of The Ruairi McAree offers excellent sustained climbing lower down and some tricky moves through the scoop.

Neil Silverwood, Jack Grinstead, 2010

#### 4 The Ruairi McAree 15 12m

The cam eating crack on the first open piece of rock after the A2/Two Towers junction. Also directly below Slow Jazz and a traverse line. No rings. Walk off via the ledge to the right.

Neil Warrington

The following climbs start from the Karearea Shelf.

#### 5 Go You Good Thing Go 15 6B 20m ↑

At the hard left side of the Karearea Shelf with a low bolt for the belayer. Bridge up a featured chimney, past 5 bolts then step out left to the 6th bolt (crux) and onwards to the double bolt anchor.

Neil Silverwood, 2010

#### 6 Slow Jazz 17 10B ↑

Listening to Aaron and his partner Adele speak is like listening to slow jazz. It's lovely, just like this route. Starts above the traverse line over The Ruairi McAree. Place a few large wires low down and make some fun moves in the corner before a spectacular finish.

Aaron Gillespie, 2012

#### 7 I Support Gay Marriage 20 10B 30m ↑

Crème de la crème climb, only in a less than ideal location. Access via a short bolted traverse from the top of Slow Jazz. Also has a tricky abseil due to its overhanging nature, a bit of teamwork swinging usually works.

Aaron Gillespie

#### 8 My Empire of Dirt 16 6B 20m ↑

The large crack with a roof that divides the wall. Tends to rain dirt from the ledge above, but still worth a go. Originally climbed on gear, now fully bolted.

Neil Silverwood

#### 9 Ohu, Karearea 22 20B 65m ↑

Go further along through supplejack (vines) and cut back to the left to gain a ledge leading to a chimney and the top of a block where the route starts.

**P1 18 25m 7B:** Start up the crack or the yellow face to the right and climb the crack, moving right at the horizontal break. Up the slab and headwall to gain the vegetated ledge. Finish up the steep short wall to the next ledge and ring anchors.

**P2 22 25m 7B:** Climb slightly to the right then back left to gain the flowstone, then swing up onto the wall. Up on small holds to an easier section trending right. Then up and left through the overhang to exit to the ledge and anchor chain.

**P3 19 15m 6B:** Start at the right edge of the ledge and climb the wall to meet the arête five metres up (great holds). Gain the slab to the right and balance up to the runnel. Bridge up to a very thought-provoking move to the anchor.

Jack Grinstead, Lindsay Main 2008

## The Colosseum

Aptly named, the Colosseum is the gargantuan rock face that looms over the flax field as you drive up the road. Aside from immaculate rock, the crag also provides an awesome bivy site complete with its own reliable spring if you're looking to spend a few days up the creek. Full of potential, but with relatively few routes, The Colosseum is the mid-20's developers dream.

**Access:** Follow the track from the Arboretum parking (gravel pullout 4.7km from SH6 with a rock cairn). Follow the vague track through long grass and "the mangroves" to the sandy (and hopefully dry) riverbed. Walk downriver for several hundred metres past the ever-changing mess of logs where a sign stating "Fun Climbing" hung between two trees indicates the start of a marked track. When you reach a junction, turn right for the trail marked "2 Towers & Colosseum". The trail splits again 100m further on, take the right fork (signposted "Colosseum") and follow this marked trail for 10 minutes along the base of the cliff until you reach a small bivy site. The climbs start 50m right of here.

### 1 Partial Project (Prj) 2B

Equipped by Lindsay Main

### 2 Nelly's Nut 21 12B 35m

**P1 21 20m 7B:** Just left of Hanging By a Thread. Starts up a juggy arête, through dusty scoops to a roof, followed by some balancy moves to the anchor.

### 10 Unfinished Business 25 13B 50m ↑

Starts just uphill of the windfall area, before you pass through the big blocks on the way to the Karearea Shelf.

**P1 17 6B:** Follow the obvious crack to a wall of steepness, crank through easily on jugs to the belay just to the left.

**P2 25 7B:** Pull through the roof (crux) with long moves and climb the upper wall to meet the 2nd pitch of Ohu, Karearea (and its crux section) and follow it to the belay.

Francis Main

**P2 21 15m 5B:** Cruise out left (at about grade 14) following the weakness around until getting slapped with the fingery, jammy crux just below the belay ledge.

Neil Warrington, 2014

### 3 Hanging by a Thread 18 7B 20m

Fun moves throughout. Starts on a funky looking jammed block just left of the massive vine growing up the cliff. After a boulder start, head slightly right and then ease back left when it gets crimpy (crux).

Neil Silverwood, 2014

### 4 How's Your French? 23 27B 76m

**P1 19 15m 4B:** Starts to the right of the gigantic vine. Climb the short wall and traverse left along the mossy ledge, scramble up the vine on the unprotected corner. Step right to clip the 2nd bolt and continue through tricky moves to the belay on a small ledge.

**P2 18 31m 11B:** A long, varied, and glorious pitch. Finish at a vegetated ledge with a double bolt anchor hidden back in the bush (60m rope works for descent with stretch).

**P3 23 30m 12B:** Head up the easy slab to the massively exposed, overhanging arête above. Put on your gorilla face, and crank through the steep moves on big holds.

Neil Silverwood, Ash Miller 2014

### 5 Pretty Little Hate Machine 20 4B 28m

This route is etched with history, a true love/hate relationship whose essence oozes from the pores in the rock as you climb. Far right side of Colosseum, has 3 bolts to get you started and save your mid/large cams for the funky upper section.

Neil Warrington, 2015



## The Colosseum



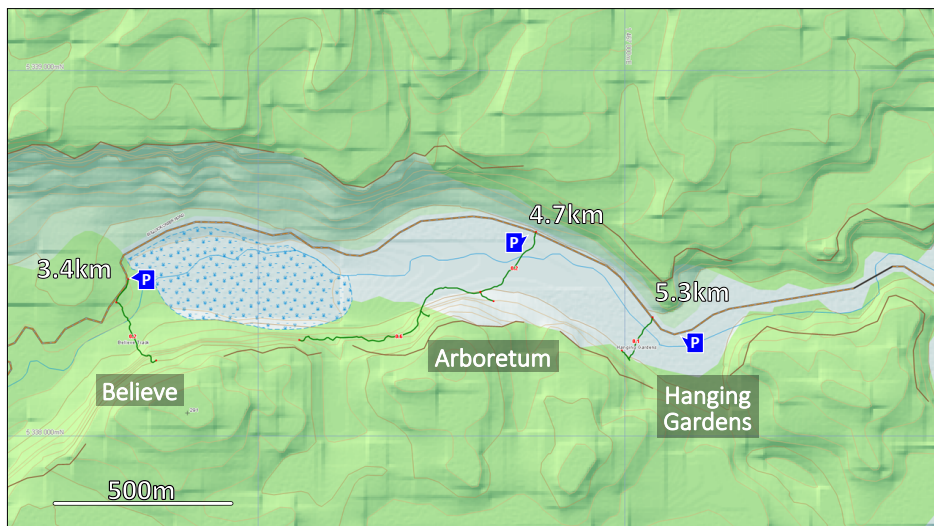
The Colosseum





Believe





Believe Crag routes make good use of a band of limestone that has clean, hard characteristics with excellent friction. Move past trees and low grade rock to find exposed climbing on excellent rock. Just Believe.

**Access:** The car park to the Believe Crag is found about 3.4km up the road at a corner 100m before the "Public Notice - if water is across the road do not continue" sign, which marks the start of the big wetland. Walk 50m back along the road to find the start of the track. A natural rock bridge allows an easy crossing of Bullock Creek in low to moderate flow. However, crossing the creek here in high flows could be problematic. The track steadily steepens up to the base of the cliff.

#### ① **Believe 18** 13B 31m

Believe starts up an obvious corner with a small tree growing out of it. Cam placements are available before the bolts start. There are two sets of abseil rings. One on the main vegetated ledge, and the other on the ledge below. It is 30m from the lower set of rings to the ground.

Aaron Gillespie, Jack Grinsted, 2014

#### ② **Porcelain (Prj)** 14B 29m

Clean, featured climbing with some delicate, sculptured holds. Closed project.

Equipped by Aaron Gillespie, Jack Grinsted, 2014

#### ③ **One For the People 21** 7B 18m

From the top of Believe climb the clean corner then step left onto an arête. Pull through the bulge and delicately climb up and right to the anchor shared with Pitons of Faith.

Jack Grinsted, 2014

#### ④ **Pitons Of Faith 17** 8B

This short pitch was originally led with a few dodgy pitons for pro. The shiny stainless bolts now provide more than adequate protection.

Jack Grinsted, 2014

#### ⑤ **Fly Like a Phoenix 19** 4B 18m

From the top of Pitons of Faith enjoy a jug haul up to the lip of the roof. Pull through and run it out to the ledge at the top. Some threads are available for nervous climbers.

Jack Grinsted, 2014

#### ⑥ **The Clean Dirt Path 16**

This crumbling corner was used for the initial access to the top of the crag. Not recommended.

Aaron Gillespie, 2014

#### ⑦ **Piss Weak 18** 13B 30m

Belay on the highest part of the main ledge. Climb right initially and continue up the blunt arête, finishing just above the bush.

Aaron Gillespie, 2014

## Paradise

**The story behind Paradise:** In mid 2014 Neil Silverwood and Neil Warrington applied for funding from Sport NZ. Every second year grants are given out to New Zealanders doing innovative adventures around the globe. Perhaps due to a serious lack of applications Sport NZ awarded the pair a grant for route development at Bullock Creek. Warrington and Silverwood had promised to put up 30 routes in 30 days, complete a guide book, and name their first born 'Sport NZ'.

Paradise Bivy was used as advanced base camp and almost all the routes at this crag were created during January 2015. Exhaustion, rain and frustration with living in the dirt slowed progress to a crawl and by half way through the month they only had 10 climbs completed.

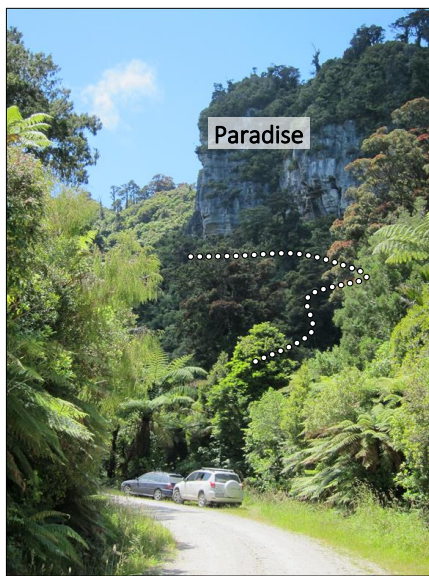


Day 29 Development Blues

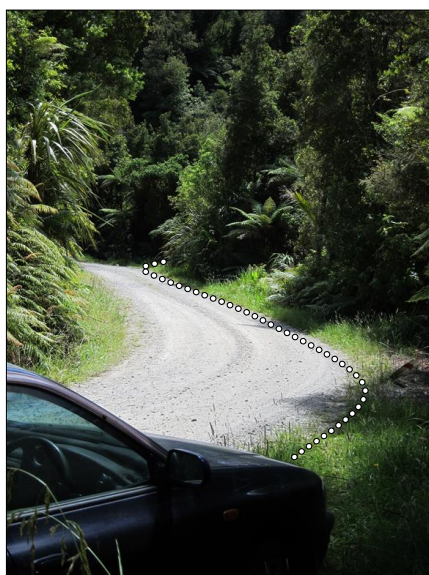
A post on social media promising free bolts, food and a can of double brown brought in reinforcements in the form of a few more keen route developers. On day 29 of the trip the 30th climb went up. The final tally for the month was 33 new climbs (37 pitches).

**Access:** Park at 1.9km down Bullock Creek Road from SH6 on one of the several grassy parking spots on the right-hand side. Walk 60m further along the road from the last parking spot looking for a marked track leading down to the creek. Cross the creek and follow the trail uphill for 20 minutes before turning upriver underneath the cliffs.

Follow the goat trail along, dipping back into the bush occasionally to a spacious bivy cave.

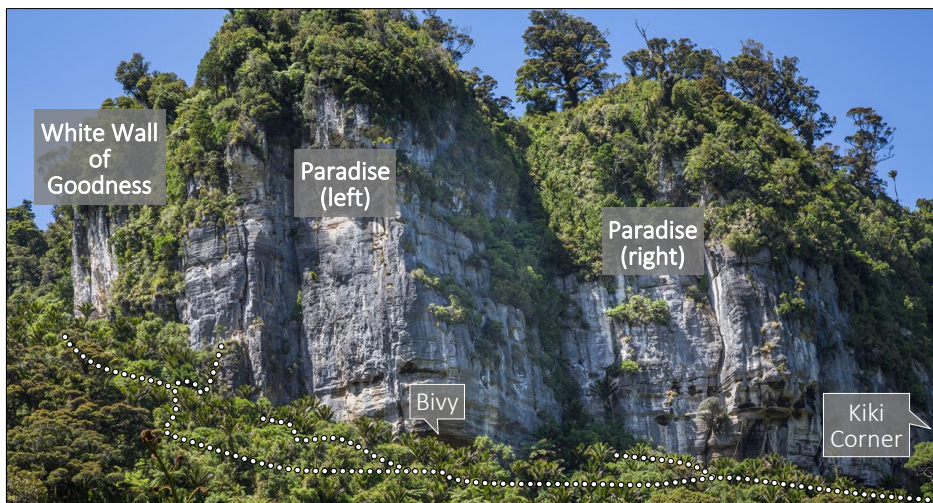


Parking



Track Start





Paradise Overview



High Contrast (21) - p31







## White Wall of Goodness

Follow the marked trail beyond the bivy along the base of the cliff for 5 minutes until you duck under a large tree to arrive at the base of High Contrast.

### ① **High Contrast 21** 7B 24m

Like driving a motorbike over Arthur's Pass: lots of cruising with some scary bits in between. Starts on the little podium on the very left of the wall and remember to ignore TomTom's bolts just to the right and continue straight up to a desperate finish.

Troy Mattingley, 2015

### ② **TomTom 21** 10B 29m

Someone forgot to tell these boys they're not in The Cave anymore. A fine link up nonetheless encompassing the more exciting parts of both routes. Starts up the first 3 bolts of The Irony then meanders left to finish up High Contrast.

Tom Smart, Tom Adamson, 2015

### ③ **The Irony 20** 10B 28m

Climb the clean crème brûlée through some reachy moves to the crack where the climbing mellows. For extra fun stay on the pillar right of the crack. Extending the last runner will help with rope drag if top roping.

Neil Silverwood, 2015

### ④ **Room With a View 21** 11B 28m

Friendly-as for those looking to push their White Wall experience. Use the first 2 bolts of The Irony (sling the 2nd) before heading off right for some absolutely elegant climbing. Join back up with Irony after pulling over the last bulge.

Neil Warrington, 2015

### ⑤ **House of Cards 19** 12B 30m

The original route of the White Wall and an absolute classic. Climbs really well as one 30m pitch if you've got the stamina.

**P1 19 15m 6B:** The handholds don't get much better than is ... good thing because it's pretty rumpy pumpy

**P2 18 15m 6B:** The climbing mellows, but the fun doesn't. Weave your way up the line of bolts to a hidden belay on a small ledge to the right.

Neil Silverwood, 2014

The following climb is 30m back down the trail on a white wall with broken off

flowstone lower down and a very loose looking pillar to its left.

### ⑥ **Thirty One. 18** 17B 40m

The cleaning effort on this climb gives the phrase carved out of stone a whole new meaning. Props to Christine Borland for putting in her time.

**P1 17 10m 6B:** Short little pitch to get the ball rolling, climb up the flowstone and veer off left to the belay on a small ledge

**P2 18 30m 11B:** The meat and potatoes pitch, you probably won't have room for dessert after this one, follow the line of bolts consciously trying to avoid bridging on the loose looking rock behind you as much as possible.

Aaron Gillispie, 2015

Located on the lone pillar literally next to the White Wall track 20m before Thirty One.

### ⑦ **Don't Tell Mum 22** 5B 13m

Nice little boulder problem. Well worth a stop for a few minutes to sort out the sequence on the upper part of the route.

Jarrod Alexander, 2015



House of Cards (19)

Paradise (left)



Paradise (left)



### ① **Every Tear a Waterfall 20** 7B 18m

A delightful number especially if you have a knack for finding hidden holds. Starts just before dropping right into the gully enroute to the Cuckoo's Nest.

Michael Cartwright, 2015

The following three climbs start from the Cuckoo's Nest. Access by following the trail to the White Wall of Goodness and turn right after the steep slope. Scramble up a tape handline.

### ② **A Quarter to Sunshine 19** 10B 22m

The first climb at Paradise. A well protected groovy little climb just left out of the Cuckoo's Nest over top of the handline and up into the immaculate rock.

Neil Warrington, 2014

### ③ **One Flew over the Cuckoo's Nest 22** 7B 22m

Starts off the pillar moving left. A naughty little crux leads to some grade 18/19 climbing above, finishing in a fine position on the small arête.

Neil Warrington, 2014

### ④ **Chocolate X's 17** 8B 25m

Chimney fiesta! Just like vegemite, don't knock it till you've tried it. Jump off right from the pillar and follow the friendly line of bolts to the slab above.

Christine Borland, 2014

The following 7 climbs are accessed up the grassy slope just left out of the bivy.

### ⑤ **Little Timmy the Guzzberry 19** 7B 20m

Black Coffee's annoyingly close younger sibling, great climbing nonetheless. Takes the left side of the dubious but solid jugs to the left side of the arête, until finally stepping out to share the last bolt of Black Coffee.

Neil Warrington, 2015

### ⑥ **Black Coffee 19** 15B 42m

No better way to wake yourself up in the morning. Starts on the right side of the dodgy looking rock.

**P1 18 20m** 7B: Better than it looks and gets even better higher up. Psych yourself up for the crux at the small roof.

**P2 19 22m** 8B: Step right to a bolt, ignoring the instantaneous exposure and storm upwards to the arête and beyond. Finish up via the last 2 bolts of Chocolate X's.

Neil Warrington, Neil Silverwood, 2015

### ⑦ **Bent 18** 5B 13m

Ballerina shoes might be more appropriate for the crux on this climb. Up the slab past some uber delicate moves at the 2nd bolt and then disappear off left behind the tree to the anchor.

Lauren Kelley, 2015

### ⑧ **Meanderthal 18** 8B 20m

The fairly well vegetated crack at the highpoint in the gully (the bolts just left of the crack). Bridge up, stepping left gently onto the slab, up past the tree then its time to use your imagination to get back into the crack. Bridge like a starfish all the way to the top.

Neil Silverwood, Heidi Godfrey, 2015

### ⑨ **Famous People Aren't so Famous 23** 11B 28m

A tricky number that keeps you on your toes right to the top. Start up Meanderthal's crack, clip the bolt on the right wall, and head for the sandy scoop. From here it's pretty self-explanatory, pre-crimp your fingers and follow the bolts. Can be helpful to sling the 4th and 6th bolt.

Neil Warrington, 2015

### ⑩ **Assisted Suicide 19** 30m

The crack hidden behind the kawakawa trees. Imagine finding a piece of gold whilst out scouring the beach for greenstone. That's how Silverwood must have felt finding this gem. Sustained and terrifying climbing from start to finish, crux hits you at 7m, protected by good cams. A standard rack just cuts it, and a 00 micro cam up top will keep your shorts dry.

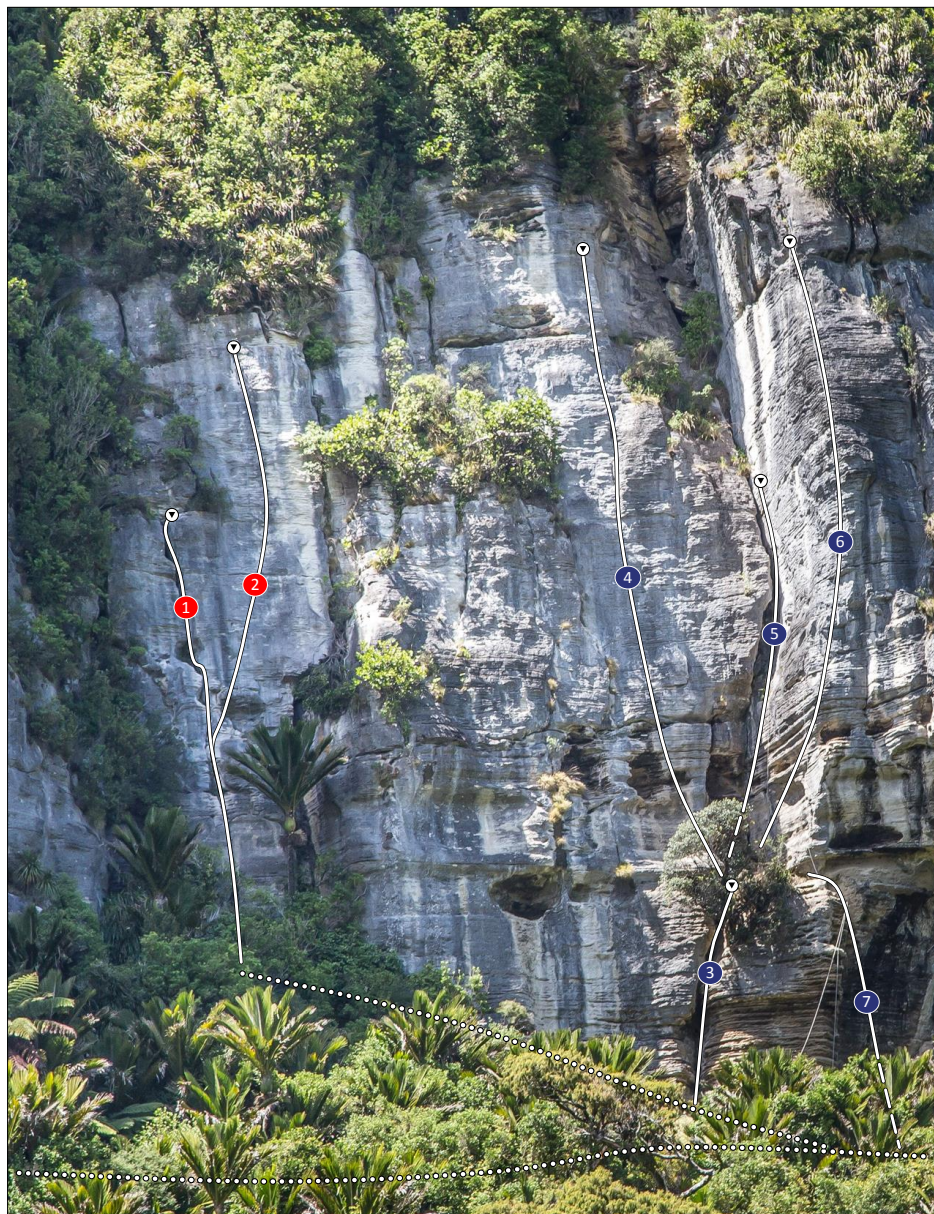
Neil Silverwood, 2015

### ⑪ **Just Another Day 22** 9B 22m

Recommended for both the quality of climb and for the bonus option of belaying from your sleeping bag. Start on the grass just left of the bivy with rings for its bottom two bolts.

Michael Cartwright, 2015

## Paradise (right)



Paradise (right)



All of the following climbs between the campsite bivy and the next sandy overhang to the right are accessed via the grass slope from the right.

**1 Smigglepuss 19** 2B 21m

Hidden up in the trees just after jumping over the small ditch. Start off the tree and jump into the crack (literally if you wish) and work your way up this thrutchy line and smiggle your way into the slightly overhanging off-width section protected by 2 bolts. Gear to #3 Camalot.

Neil Silverwood, 2015

**2 Specist 25** 5B 26m

Climb Smigglepuss to the ledge, whacking in a bunch of dirty ol' cams then put on your sport booties and dance out onto the right face. Techy and crimpy with a dramatic finish. Troy gives it 8 out of 3 stars and says 'soft 25' which translates to a pretty good grade 26 for the rest of us. Only needs a handful of cams #.75 – 3.

Troy Mattingley, 2015

The following four climbs all start up PB, the wide crack just left of the sandy overhang.

**3 PB 16** 3B 12m

Debated whether it stands for 'peanut butter' or 'pointless but necessary', a dirty little pitch up the jug infested crack below the rata tree that gives access to the following climbs on the ledge above.

Neil Warrington, 2015

**4 Teardrops From Space 21** 13B 36m

Longer is always better. Climb PB, but step left before getting to the ledge, clip a bolt and mantle like you mean it. Veer left to navigate your way through brokenness to the marathon of gray goodness above. Lower off to PB's ledge and abseil twice unless you've got an extra-long rope.

Neil Warrington, 2015

**5 At a Pinch 18** 11B 26m

Climb PB's crack to the ledge, make sure your belayer is paying attention and pull through some hardish moves to get up into the corner and into a whole new world of funk and squeezey weirdness that feels more like caving than climbing. Makes a nice short multi-pitch if you decide to split it up by stopping on PB's ledge.

Heidi Godfrey, 2015

**6 Man on Wire 24** 8B 24m

This prize line speaks for itself. Excellent climbing in an outstanding position. Starts from PB's ledge, belay from the double bolt anchor, clip the high bolt on the slab before venturing out to the shallow crack at the arête. The start is apparently closer to 25/26 no matter how you do it.

Zac Orme, 2015

**7 Blimp Redemption 20** 7B 20m

This climb started out like an onion; covered in an unappealing brown and yellow skin, but after a few days of scrubbing the outer layers came off and left this tear streamer of a route. Originally climbed on gear, it's now fully bolted for safety and mental health reasons.

Kat Rast, 2015

The Love Shack is the furthest right sandy overhang and the first one you arrive at when walking up the trail from the car park. The following climb is through the overhang above The Love Shack.

**9 Waiting for a Sunny Day (Pri)** 4B 10m ↗

Starts left of the overhang with a leap to the large hollow sounding flake (don't belay below this). The remainder is self explanatory. Always dry.

Equipped by Michael Cartwright, 2015



At a Pinch (18)

## Kiki Corner

Kiki Corner is the furthest right wall of Paradise. Located up the steep slope through the kiki with a fixed handline just right of the Love Shack. The Love Shack is the furthest right sandy overhang and the first one you arrive at when walking up the trail from the car park.

### ① WTF Silverwood! It's a Sloper! 21 5B 15m

Climb the arête left of Kiki My Eezy. Surprisingly tricky and a sticky heel will help you stay on. Grade 21 if you avoid using the dirty back wall until the 4th bolt. Equipped by Neil Silverwood.

Neil Warrington, 2015

### ② Kiki My Eezy 18 26m

You'd never guess this innocent looking open book corner could strike terror into so many sport climbers, but then again they've probably heard of a finger lock. Keep your eyes peeled for sneaky gear placements beside the crack. By the way, the diving board has been tested to 85kg.

Neil Warrington, 2015

### ③ Blast-phemy 19 2B 26m

Starts 3m right of Kiki My Eezy. Clip a low bolt then blast upwards through the first crack through some lovely slots and stays left of the tree and shrubbery. Finally clip another bolt and dart immediately left into the corner to finish up Kiki My Eezy.

Neil Warrington, 2015



Blimp Redemption (20) - p34







Bullock Creek





It's a jungle out there! Machu Picchu track.

Machu Picchu is arguably the best crag in Bullock Creek if you are the type of person that:

- enjoys easy-moderate multi-pitch climbing on naturally clean rock
- likes watching the sunset over the ocean from a cushy ledge after your climb
- can't stand climbing on the same type of rock for two pitches in a row
- wants a steep and gnarly approach through some fine west coast bush

**Access:** Drive up Bullock Creek Road and park at a small grassy parking spot on the right-hand side with a large log (1.8km from SH6). Walk back down the road 10m and take a steep gravel bank down to the creek. Cross using a rock bridge and follow the flagging tape through thick bush up a steep and sometimes slippery track to the base of the cliffs. Climbs are accessed via a short handline onto a ledge located 30m right of where the trail meets the rock.

#### ① **Dark and Ominous 18** 3B 15m ★

Start from the chainlink belayer bolt, venture out left and up through the bush to the arête. No lower off rings, just hangers and old tat. Not recommended at the moment.

Aaron Gillespie, 2009

#### ② **Sweet Jane, Jane Cuts Loose 18** 22B 54m ★

**P1 16 15m 7B:** Take the middle line of bolts and cruise past a grassy ledge before landing at the belay a few meters below the taunting roof.

**P2 16 15m 5B:** Cruise left along the bushy ledge before making your way around the corner of the roof to Sunset Ledge.

**P3 18 24m 10B:** Certainly no longer Sweet Jane. A wild wandering adventure. Follow the line of bolts that start just left of the belay. At the 3rd bolt reach for a jug out right and continue upwards through super featured rock to an atmospheric belay.

Neil Silverwood, 2009

#### ③ **Crown of Thorns 22** 20B 55m ★

Voted best route in the valley by two dodgy buggers with the same first name. Well worth tramping up the hill for.

**P1 19 28m 10B:** Climb the right-hand line of bolts up to the big dihedral, climb bolt on the right wall and make a pant moistening move by reaching around the nose to good holds. Continue straight up to the belay on Sunset Ledge.

Neil Silverwood, 2014

**P2 22 27m 10B:** Welcome to Tonsai, except for the lack of polished holds or line-ups you might as well be in Thailand. Right off the belay leads 27m of gnarl.

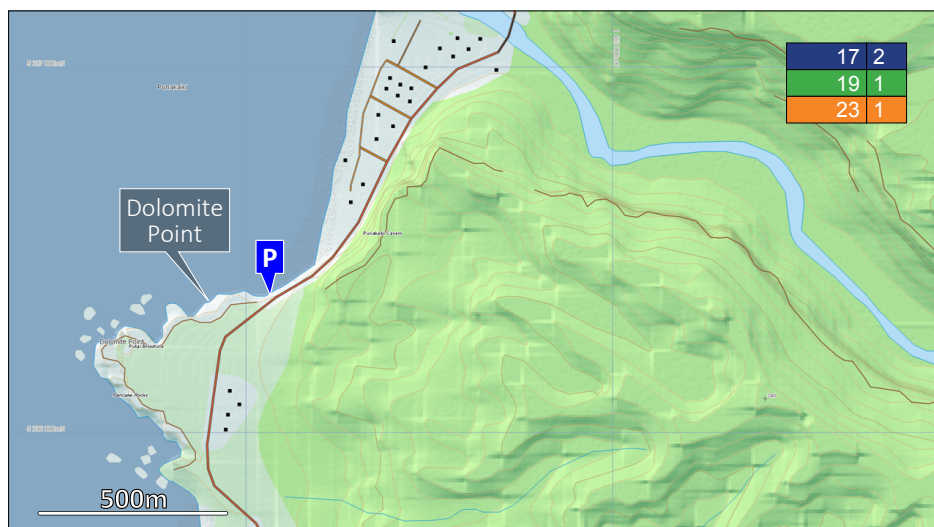
Neil Warrington, 2014

## Dolomite Point



III Peripheral (23)

Ah, Dolomite Point. There's so much goodness about this little area. It is hard to know if one is just blinded by the beauty of the location or if the climbing is really a notch above. Either way, a quick stop to sample the few climbs beside the sea or just soak in the sunset is highly recommended. Keep in mind that the corrosive ocean environment is taking its toll on the stainless steel bolts which are already showing some staining. Use good judgement.







Dolomite Point

**Access:** Park at the paved parking spot halfway down the hill just north of Pancake Rocks. Go over the fence and down the steepness or walk around and along the boulders beside the sea. III Peripheral is the stunning arête you can see from the road. Wave Rider is found past III Peripheral, through a bit of bush then under a couple of blocks to a north facing wall.

The following two trad lines are located on the large grey block immediately below the pull-out halfway down the hill. Easiest access is to abseil in using 2 bolts on the top of the block and climb out.

#### ① **Le Crème de la Crack** 17 12m

With rock altering super powers, the only thing to do to this climb would be to stretch it to 30m. The fainter crack 1m left of the Cat's Meow.

Neil Warrington, 2015

#### ② **The Cat's Meow** 17 12m

The very prominent finger/handcrack up the centre of the block. Yes, it absolutely is as good as it looks. A must do if you're driving by.

Kat Rast, 2015

#### ③ **III Peripheral** 23 5B 18m

A gorgeous line that would cause any sunset photographer to snap several hundred photos. Unfortunately it is rarely climbed except by the extraordinarily bold due to a run-out between the 3rd and 4th bolt.

Kester Brown

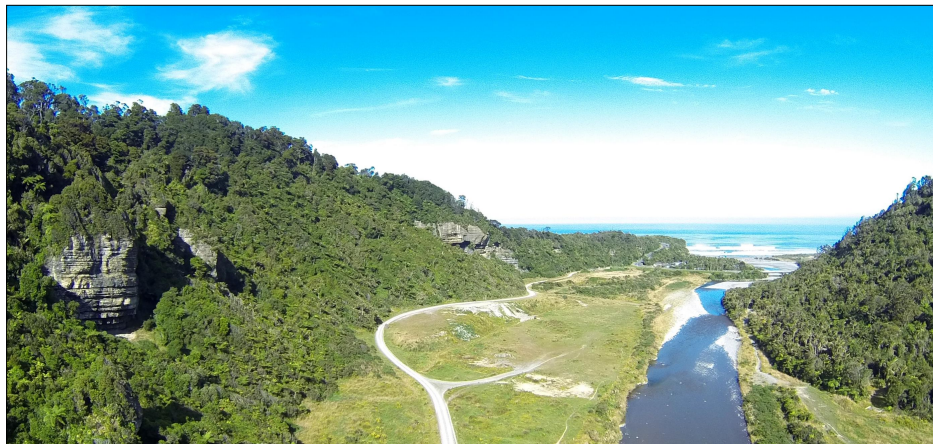
#### ④ **Wave Rider** 19 5B 15m

A high fear inducing 1st clip leads to some stellar moves up the crux protected by the 4th bolt. Finish up and soak in the stunning scenery.

Jamie Vinton-Boot



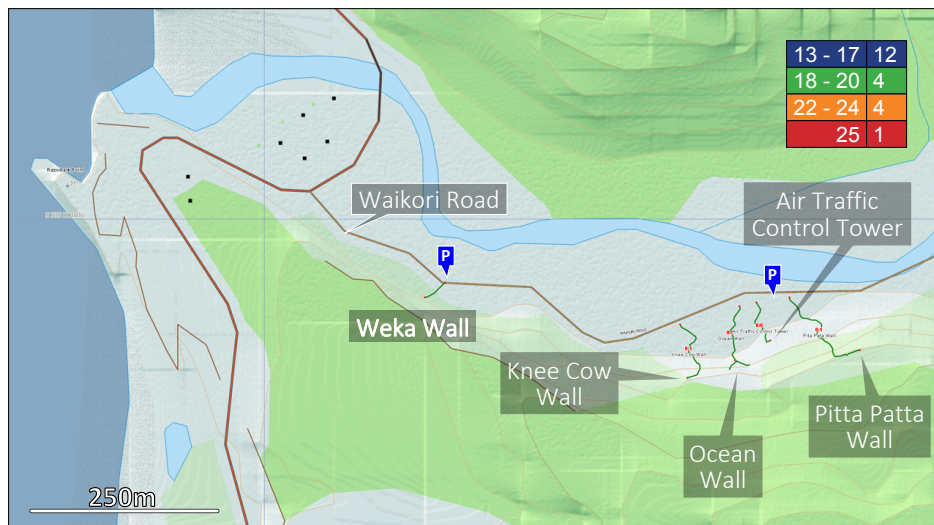
## Punakaiki River Valley



At the Punakaiki River bridge turn left onto a gravel road, open the gate next to the cattle yards, shut the gate. Drive 200m and Weka Wall is located on your right. While the road does go through to the Paparoa National Park, the crags and access are on private land.

**Absolutely no camping is allowed on the property/farmland.**

Access to climbing relies on this being adhered to. Please also observe the common sense to leave gates as found, the dog at home, and remove any rubbish.



Punakaiki River Valley Crags

Weka Wall  
Knee Cow Wall  
Ocean Wall

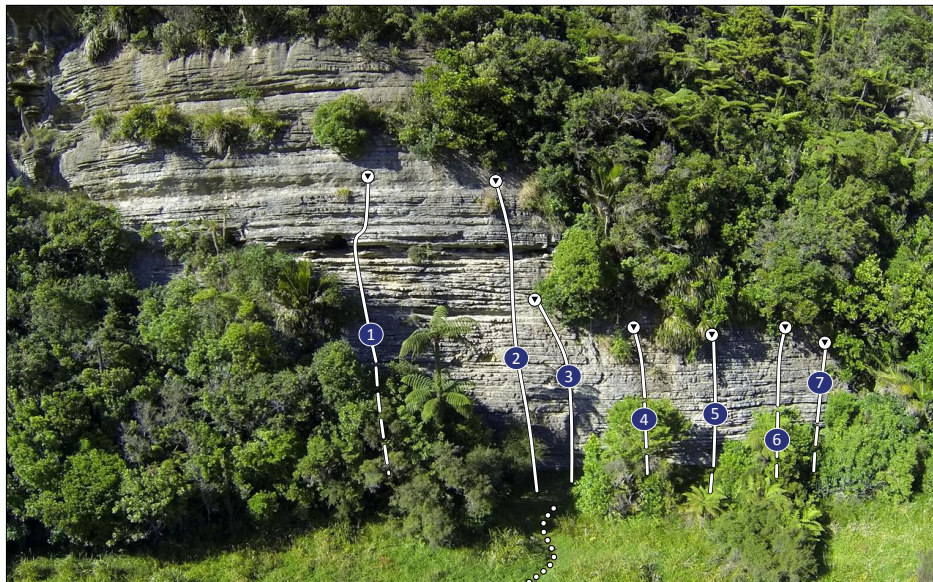
p43  
p44  
p44

Air Traffic Control Tower  
Pitta Pitta Wall

p45  
p46



## Weka Wall



Weka Wall

This is a short friendly beginner crag on pancaked rocks. Neil Silverwood and Heidi Godfrey's pet project. Fine in a light rain but heavy rain causes seepage.

### 1 The End of Motion 18 6B 18m

Lulled into a level of cruising comfort until the roof at the top adds a little spice to your fingertips.

Neil Silverwood, 2009

### 2 View to Sea 16 6B 18m

Hands down best climb on the wall. If only Silverwood could put up a route this good.

Heidi Godfrey, 2009

### 3 Eehaw 15 3B 10m

A good starting point for those new to the vertical hobby.

Heidi Godfrey, 2009

### 4 Max 16 5B 10m

Absolute bananas.

Neil Silverwood, 2009

### 5 Weka Watch 15 4B 10m

Missing hangers at the moment?

Heidi Godfrey, 2009

### 6 Hansel 16 3B 10m

Bit of a tricky start but turns into a delightful little number.

Neil Silverwood, 2009

### 7 Gretel 13 4B 18m

Something to do when you've done the rest.

Neil Silverwood, 2009

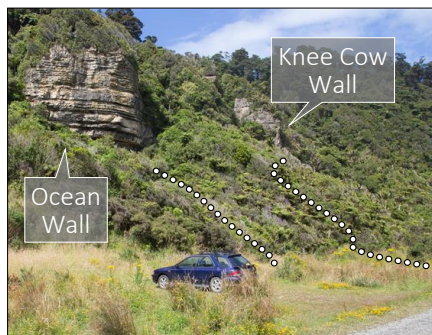


Weka

## Knee Cow Wall

The distinct left-hand arête a short distance downstream from the Ocean Wall. Steep lower wall, mostly excellent hard rock with some bands of loose/weak rock. Named for several large Nikau palms which shade the base of the cliff. Helmets strongly recommended.

**Access:** Track up to the crag is flagged and cut from the right-hand end of the swampy area below the Ocean Wall.



Approaches

### ① Elbow Sheep 20 7B 20m ★

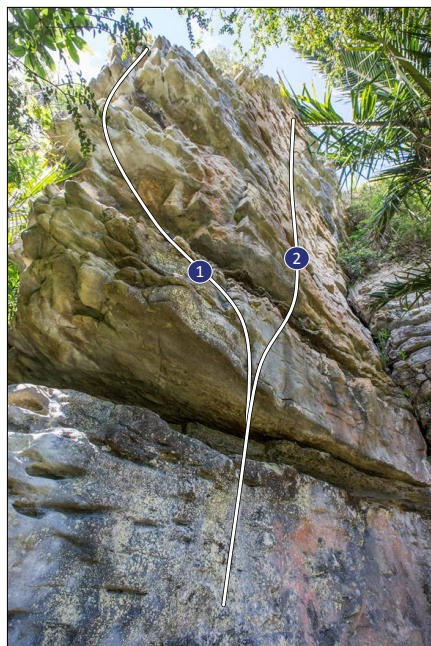
This route tends left through the overhanging lower section, around the corner and up the left side of the arête. Look out for sneaky bolts. Generously bolted by Neil Silverwood.

Jason Blair, Jack Grinstead

### ② Set Menu, Eh? 22 8B 22m ★

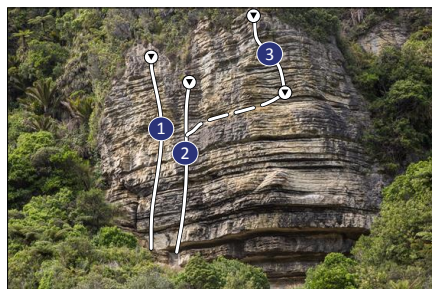
Shares first bolt with Elbow Sheep then heads right up the steeper part of the face. Meanders a little, especially above the bulge where the rock deteriorates.

Jason Blair



Knee Cow Wall

## Ocean Wall



Ocean Wall

This is the large north-facing wall with an undercut start and obvious horizontal banding, indicating a healthy series of overhangs. The crag is about 25 metres high and has some excellent pumpy climbing that stays dry in all weather.

**Access:** Find the track on the other side of a swampy area, leading straight to the crag. It follows the main central drainage.

### ① Endeavour 22 10B 25m ★★

Hard moves off the ground can be avoided by traversing in. The route is sustained and slightly overhanging. Be wary of loose rock.

Josh Hudson, 2012

### ② Walk the Plank 24 6B 18m

Just to the right of Endeavour. A steep pumpy line.

Jason Blair, 2012

### ③ Simone's Nose 18 7B 18m

Approach on cams by traversing in from Walk the Plank (or Endeavour).

Josh Hudson, 2013



## Air Traffic Control Tower



Air Traffic Control Tower

A tasty little gem hidden amongst the bush with awesome steep, juggy climbing.

**Access:** Park at an obvious turnout about 50m from the crag. The track starts slightly further right than you'd think. Follow the track left then up through the bush.

### ① Flight Control 22 6B 18m

Follows the weakness on the left side of the wall.

Jack Grinsted, 2008

### ② Thievery Corporation 25 6B 18m ★

Get established on the flowstone; then make the hard moves through the bulge and finish at the 'Flight Control' belay.

Josh Hudson, Jack Grinsted, 2011

### ③ First in Flight 19 6B 18m

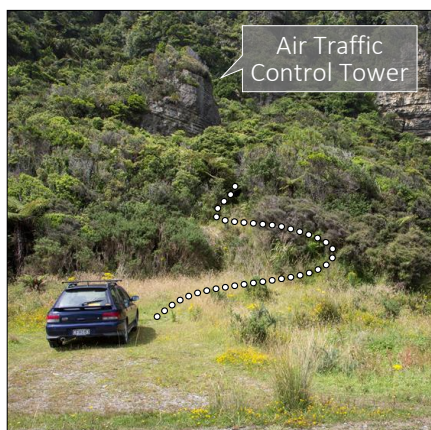
Climb the overhanging wall on substantial holds to the horizontal break where the character of the climb suddenly changes with crimpy moves on the finish.

Jack Grinsted, 2008

### ④ Honour Among Thieves 17 6B 18m ★

Powerful. Start involves a bit of a dyno for the height impaired then continues through reachy moves on big holds to the break where it changes to a more delicate style.

Lindsay Main, 2008



Approach

## Pitta Patta Wall



Pitta Patta Wall

Pitta Patta Wall is hidden in the bush high up above the Punakaiki River. It was developed in desperation on a rainy day - Bullock Creek was flooded and most other areas of rock were wet. It is a wee walk up to the crag (10 minutes), but it stays dry in any less than a northerly gale and the views out to sea are stunning!

**Access:** Park before the 2nd gate (with the "no shooting" sign). The approach track starts up the open slope right (downstream) of the fence. Continue uphill following the fence, then under it and follow the flagging tape to the base of the steep rotten looking cliff. The climbs start 40m left from this point up a muddy little scramble.

### ① Rain Dance 16 4B 12m ⤴

Cruise from jug to jug up past three bolts to a spicy finish.

Lauren Kelley, 2014

### ② Gumboot Route 15 6B 12m ⤴

The name is a reference to the first ascent footwear.

Aaron Gillespie, 2008

### ③ The Darkness Comes 17 6B 14m ⤴

Sustained climbing on featured rock.

Neil Silverwood, 2008

### ④ Inspiration Exploration 17 6B 14m ⤴

Pumpy moves to gain an easy face.

Neil Silverwood, 2008

### ⑤ Pitta Patta 16 6B 14m ⤴

Bridge up the right-hand corner through a couple of steep moves to easier climbing after the bulge.

Adele Reweti, 2008



## Climbs by Grade, By Crag

Trad and mixed climbs are shown in red.

### 25

<i>Bullock Creek</i>	
Heart Attack and Vine	11
<b>Specist</b>	35
Unfinished Business (2 pitches)	24
<i>Punakaiki River Valley</i>	
Thievery Corporation	45

### 24

<i>Bullock Creek</i>	
Man on Wire	35
Seemingly Psychedelic	12
<i>Punakaiki River Valley</i>	
Walk the Plank	44

### 23

<i>Bullock Creek</i>	
Famous People Aren't so Famous	33
Francis' Route	15
How's Your French? (3 pitches)	24
<i>Dolomite Point</i>	
Ill Peripheral	41

### 22

<i>Bullock Creek</i>	
<b>Crème Brûlée</b>	11
Crown of Thorns (2 pitches)	39
Don't Tell Mum	31
Just Another Day	33
Lost in Time	11
Ohu, Karearea (3 pitches)	23
One Flew over the Cuckoo's Nest	33
Short Story Long	21
<i>Punakaiki River Valley</i>	
Endeavour	44
Flight Control	45
Set Menu, Eh?	44

### 21

<i>Bullock Creek</i>	
High Contrast	31
Nelly's Nut (2 pitches)	24
One For the People	27
Room With a View	31
Teardrops From Space	35
The Great Gatsby	12
TomTom	31
Where the Weka Was	12
WTF Silverwood! It's a Sloper!	36

### 20

<i>Bullock Creek</i>	
Arc of a Diver (3 pitches)	19
Blimp Redemption	35
Double Trouble (2 pitches)	15

Every Dog Has His Day	23
Every Tear a Waterfall	33
I Support Gay Marriage	23
Illusions of Inadequacy	11
Knee Deep	12
Nevermind the Bullocks (2 pitches)	19
<b>Pretty Little Hate Machine</b>	24
The Irony	31
<i>Punakaiki River Valley</i>	
Elbow Sheep	44

### 19

<i>Bullock Creek</i>	
A Quarter to Sunshine	33
<b>Assisted Suicide</b>	33
Black Coffee (2 pitches)	33
Black Sheep (2 pitches)	21
<b>Blast-phemy</b>	36
Blunt Arête	21
Fly Like a Phoenix	27
<b>Fresh As Bananas</b>	21
House of Cards (2 pitches)	31
Little Timmy the Guzzberry	33
Love From Me	11
<b>Nomad</b>	21
Plan B	19
<b>Smigglepuss</b>	35
With Friends Like These (3 pitches)	21
<i>Dolomite Point</i>	
Wave Rider	41
<i>Punakaiki River Valley</i>	
First in Flight	45

### 18

<i>Bullock Creek</i>	
Absent Friends	15
At a Pinch	35
Believe	27
Bent	33
Bush Chick	12
Dark and Ominous	39
Dogs in Space	12
Hanging by a Thread	24
<b>Kiki My Eeky</b>	36
Meanderthal	33
Piss Weak	27
Rock Ahoy	21
<b>Slanted and Enchanted</b>	21
Sweet Jane, Jane Cuts Loose (3 pitches)	39
Thirty One. (2 pitches)	31
<b>Up to the Neck</b>	19
When You See a Chance (2 pitches)	19

<i>Punakaiki River Valley</i>	
Simone's Nose	44
The End of Motion	43

## 17

<i>Bullock Creek</i>	
Blistering Barnacles	19
Chocolate X's	33
Opportunivore	12
Pitons Of Faith	27
Slow Jazz	23
<i>Dolomite Point</i>	
Le Crème de la Crack	41
The Cat's Meow	41
<i>Punakaiki River Valley</i>	
Honour Among Thieves	45
Inspiration Exploration	46
The Darkness Comes	46

## 16

<i>Bullock Creek</i>	
Crack of Beyond	11
More Bang For Your Buck	23
My Empire of Dirt	23
PB	35
Rumble in the Jungle (2 pitches)	23
The Clean Dirt Path	27
<i>Punakaiki River Valley</i>	
Hansel	43
Max	43
Pitta Patta	46
Rain Dance	46
View to Sea	43

## 15

<i>Bullock Creek</i>	
Go You Good Thing Go	23
The Ruairi McAree	23
<i>Punakaiki River Valley</i>	

Eehaw	43
Gumboot Route	46
Weka Watch	43

## 14

<i>Bullock Creek</i>	
Champing at the Bit	11

## 13

<i>Bullock Creek</i>	
Crackerjack	21
<i>Punakaiki River Valley</i>	
Gretel	43

This guide includes text and photos from multiple sources. Many climbers helped with editing, proof reading and constructive criticism. Contributors include Michael Cartwright, Tamara Cartwright, Aaron Gillespie, Heidi Godfrey, Josh Hudson, Lauren Kelley, Lindsay Main, Troy Mattingley, Cathy O'Dowd, Kat Rast, Neil Silverwood and Neil Warrington.

NZ	FR	USA
14	4+	5.7
15	5	5.8
16	5+	
17		5.9
18	6a	5.10a
19	6a+	5.10b
20	6b	5.10c
21	6b+	5.10d
22	6c	5.11a
23	6c+	5.11b
24	7a	5.11c
25	7a+	5.11d
26	7b	5.12a
27	7b+	5.12b
28	7c	5.12c
	7c+	5.12d
		5.13a











